I Claim:

1. A method of configuring a plurality of gateways on a voice switching network, the method comprising the steps of:

configuring a first gateway using one or more commands;

storing the configuration for the first gateway into a file;

modifying the file by modifying at least one of the commands; and

configuring a second gateway using the file.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the voice switching network is a Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) network, and the gateways comprise VoIP gateways.

3. The method according to claim 2, wherein the VoIP network is an H.323 network, a Session Initiated Protocol (SIP) network or a Medial Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP) network, and the gateways comprise H.323 gateways, SIP gateways or MGCP gateways depending on the type of the VoIP network.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the file comprises a binary file.

5. The method according to claim 1, wherein the file comprises an ASCII text file.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein the commands comprise a command for assigning an IP address to at least one gateway or to a network device.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the network device is a VoIP device.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the commands comprise a command for associating a destination gateway with a unique identifier.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein the unique identifier comprise an IP address, an H.323 address, a SIP address or an MGCP address.

10. The method according to claim 1, wherein the commands comprise a command for creating a local channel destination with a specified name.

11. The method according to claim 1, wherein the commands comprise one or more commands for defining one or more groups of related phone numbers, and for configuring said groups of related phone numbers.

12. The method according to claim 1, wherein the commands comprise one or more commands for defining one or more containers, and for configuring the containers.

13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the containers are used to store phone groups and destinations, and to relate the phone groups with the destinations.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the containers comprise numbering plans.

15. The method according to claim 1, wherein the voice switching network comprises a central registration device that contains routing information, and the commands comprise a command for associating one or more phone groups of the gateways with the central registration device.

16. The method according to claim 15, wherein the voice switching network is a VoIP network, and the central registration device is a gatekeeper.

17. A voice switching network comprising:

a plurality of gateways, a first gateway being configured using one or more commands, the first gateway comprising first memory for storing the commands into a file, and a second gateway comprising second memory,

wherein the file containing the commands is modified by modifying at least one of the commands, and wherein the modified file is stored in the second memory and is used to configure the second gateway.

18. The voice switching network according to claim 17, wherein the voice switching network is an VoIP network, and the gateways comprise VoIP gateways.

19. The voice switching network according to claim 18, wherein the VoIP network is an H.323 network, a Session Initiated Protocol (SIP) network or a Medial Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP) network, and the gateways comprise H.323 gateways, SIP gateways or MGCP gateways depending on the type of the VoIP network.

20. The voice switching network according to claim 17, wherein the file comprises a binary file.

21. The voice switching network according to claim 17, wherein the file comprises an ASCII text file.

22. The voice switching network according to claim 17, wherein the commands comprise a command for assigning an IP address to at least one gateway or to a network device.

23. The voice switching network according to claim 22, wherein the network device is a VoIP device.

24. The voice switching network according to claim 17, wherein the commands comprise a command for associating a destination gateway with a unique identifier.

25. The voice switching network according to claim 24, wherein the unique identifier comprises an IP address, an H.323 address, a SIP address or an MGCP address.

26. The voice switching network according to claim 17, wherein the commands comprise a command for creating a local channel destination with a specified name.

27. The voice switching network according to claim 17, wherein the commands comprise one or more commands for defining one or more groups of related phone numbers, and for configuring said groups of related phone numbers.

28. The voice switching network according to claim 17, wherein the commands comprise one or more commands for defining one or more containers, and for configuring the containers.

29. The voice switching network according to claim 28, wherein the containers are used to store phone groups and destinations, and to relate the phone groups with the destinations.

30. The voice switching network according to claim 29, wherein the containers comprise numbering plans.

31. The voice switching network according to claim 17, the network further comprising a central registration device that contains routing information, and the commands comprise a command for associating one or more phone groups of the gateways with the central registration device.

32. The voice switching network according to claim 32, wherein the voice switching network is a VoIP netwrok, and the central registration device is a gatekeeper.

33. A method of network dialing on a voice switching network, the method comprising the steps of:

defining one or more groups of phone numbers;

associating at least one group of phone numbers with a numbering plan; and

associating a destination with the numbering plan, the destination being related to the group of phone numbers associated with the numbering plan.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein the numbering plan serves as a container for storing the group of phone numbers and the destination that are related to one another.

35. The method of claim 33, further comprising the step of translating an incoming phone number to a destination address using the numbering plan.